FBIS DAILY REPORT

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PARAGUAYAN AMBASSADOR COMPLAINS OF INTERFERENCE

PY070210 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1832 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Salta, 6 May (NA) -- Paraguayan Ambassador to Argentina Luis Gonzalez Arias today accused some Radical deputies of the National Coordinating Board of interfering in his country's domestic affairs. He said that in some districts of Buenos Aires, the boxes of food distributed under the National Food Plan (PAN) are used as bait "to attract people who are then given subversive training."

Gonzalez Arias also criticized Asuncion Archbishop Ismael Rolon and the exiled Paraguayan writer Augusto Roa Bastos, emphasizing that Ismael Rolon should "dedicate his time to the duties of an archbishop" and that the writer "should give up his connections with the Communist Party."

During an exclusive interview granted to NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS, the diplomat said that a group of subversives participated in the events which recently took place in Asuncion "in order to create an atmosphere of unease."

Gonzalez Arias, who came to Salta to inaugurate the Paraguayan Consulate in this city, said that Asuncion is under a preventive state of siege because that capital is close to a country "where there are a great number of people interested in interfering with and infiltrating national politics."

The Paraguayan ambassador stated that "there are media personnel, politicians, television people, and Radical deputies who attend political acts staged by illegal, unregistered political groups." He accused Radical lawmakers who have visited Asuncion of participating in acts conducted at the Plaza Italia and in other demonstrations, emphasizing that "they were allowed to move freely."

Gonzalez Arias said that he was not blaming the Argentine Government but stressed that an attitude of "interfering in Paraguayan domestic affairs exists in the Argentine Government," and specifically named the National Coordinating Board.

The Paraguayan diplomat also addressed his criticism to leftist groups in Argentina, specifically the Movement to Socialism and the Communist Party, and blamed them for creating a number of problems, as they did in Yacyreta [Binational Hydroelectric Project], "where they infiltrated the workers' mess halls and began asking for salary increases and a reduction in work hours."

The Colorado government of President Stroessner, which has been in power 32 years, has so far reacted calmly, but on 2 May 15,000 members of the Colorado Party gathered "in support of the president and to give a small demonstration of strength and to show that the party can mobilize people."

The ambassador admitted that Paraguay "has a history of violence that must be lived down, but that if the Colorado Party is challenged and forced to take the roads of the past, it is determined to confront such a situation."

Asked about the critical position the church has adopted toward the government, the ambassador said that it is only Archbishop Ismael Rolon and some bishops, "because not all of them think the same." When told that it was the hierarchy of the church, Ambassador Gonzalez Arias insisted that the position was held by some members of the hierarchy, but that "there are bishops who do not share that position," He then said: "Archbishop Rolon should remember his position as pastor of the church and not become a politician.

Gonzalez Arias then asked if "there are coups, revolutions, or social problems in Paraguay" to justify the Asuncion archbishop's call for "pacification" through a national dialogue. He stressed the fact that in Paraguay there is a legal opposition as well as one that "does not meet the requirements to act as a political party."

Referring to the thousands of Paraguayan exiles, especially in Argentina, the Paraguayan ambassador explained that all of them were allowed to return on 10 December 1983, except Domingo Laino, Augusto Roa Bastos, and Luis Resck, who was recently authorized to return. He said that Laino, leader of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party, is not permitted to return because "he proposes the use of violence and force." As for Roa Bastos, the ambassador said "he is forbidden because of his participation in activities of the Communist Party."

Commenting on the activities of the U.S. ambassador in Asuncion, who has on several occasions met with leaders of the illegal and unrecognized parties, Gonzalez Arias said that the transition government that is being advocated by the U.S. diplomat "will come whenever the president completes his mandate and the Paraguayan people demand."

The Paraguayan ambassador reiterated that in Asuncion "there are infiltrators who attack the police with bullets, stones, and bottles," and pointed out that "in some cases," those infiltrators come from Argentina. He added that "there are people in Buenos Aires districts who are being prepared by leftist groups. For instance, the food baskets of the National Food Plan are sometimes used to attract people and then give them subversive indoctrination. And this happens in many places."

Ambassador Gonzalez Arias complained that "while brotherhood and noninterference in the internal affairs of other countries are exalted on the one hand, there is on the other hand interference in the affairs of one country but not in that of another. This is the truth, because for a UCR [Radical Civic Union] deputy to speak on behalf of his party in Paraguay is interfering in internal affairs."

Lastly, the Paraguayan ambassador said that he "absolutely does not accept the condemnation of apartheid," which is practiced by the South African Government, because that "is to interfere in the affairs of South Africa" and to question the internal legislation of that country.

Government Reacts

PY070212 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2336 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 May (NA) -- The Argentine Government has given the Paraguayan authorities 24 hours to either confirm or rectify the statement Paraguayan Ambassador Luis Gonzalez Arias made to the press, which the Argentine Government has described as "serious" for bilateral relations. In a communique released tonight, the Foreign Ministry says that instructions have been given to Argentine Ambassador Raul Quijano to rake the appropriate steps in Asuncion.

Through the communique the Argentine Foreign Ministry reacted to the comments Gonzalez Arias made to this agency that Radical legislators are interfering in Paraguayan internal affairs and that the distribution of food under the National Food Plan is being used "to attract people to give them subversive training." The communique says: "The Foreign Ministry has instructed its representative in Asuncion, Ambassador Raul Quijano, to give the Paraguayan Government 24 hours to clarify the statement Paraguayan Ambassador Luis Gonzalez Arias made today, a statement that is considered serious for relations between the two countries."

ALFONSIN CRITICIZES BIASED, ANTI-U.S. REPORTING

PY042351 BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 4 May 86 p 15

[Text] (NA) -- President Raul Alfonsin on Friday called for "greater balance" in television programming on state-owned channels, which he believed had taken a marked anti-United States tone. Sources close to the President said that in a meeting last week with Public Information Secretariat (SIP) and television authorities, Alfonsin gave some "personal reflections" on what he saw as a bias against the U.S. in locally-produced documentaries on national and international affairs.

Before the meeting, said sources, Alfonsin viewed video-cassettes of programmes on the Central American situation, the Bay of Pigs invasion, and hemispheric security issues to back up his charges. Alfonsin reportedly told the television authorities that programmes did not take into account "the two imperialisms" and that "only the U.S. was criticized."

Alfonsin also demanded to know why two state channels, 11 and 13, did not broadcast on-the-spot coverage of the Socio-Economic Conference talks last Monday. SIP authorities reportedly replied that they blacked out coverage when they learned that labour leaders at the talks were making public comments when they left the talks, in violation of an agreement among all three sides that only Government House spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez would comment publicly.

U.S., EEC PROTECTIONISM 'BLASTED' BY ALFONSIN

PY042349 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 4 May 86 p 15

[Text] Necochea (NA-DYN) -- In a hard-hitting, off-the-cuff speech to more than 1,000 people -- mainly Radicals -- after the inauguration of new modern wheat warehousing and shiploading facilities at Quequen port, President Raul Alfonsin yesterday blasted the protectionist measures of the United States and the European Economic Community (EEC). Public Works Minister Roberto Tomasini, Secretaries Lucio Reca (agriculture and livestock), Daniel Batalla, (transport), Hector Polino (co-operatives), and others accompanied the President during his five-hour visit.

Ships blew their horns to welcome Alfonsin and crew men lined the decks as the President held the U.S. and the EEC responsible for the "tough crisis" the country is going through. Nevertheless, he said, "united elbow to elbow Argentines will once and for all build the country our forefathers dreamed of. We are proud of being Argentine, Latin American, and of knowing we are on the right road toward building the country we will leave our children."

The President pointed out that "because of the aggressive marketing policies of the more developed countries, the prices of our international products have fallen 30 percent." Alfonsin added the U.S. subsidizes to the tune of "25 million dollars its agricultural production while it pours about seven million dollars into its export drive."

Meanwhile, "the EEC ploughs 17 million dollars into subsidies for agriculture and all of this has produced a drop in our prices as though they wanted to dislodge us from those outlets," he said.

He went on to insist the Argentine agricultural sector "will not abandon markets it has supplied for more than a century," despite even the most adverse conditions. "Because of this we will of course raise our voices in protest and continue to call for universal justice, which is the only guarantee for world peace," the President added.

During Alfonsin's speech a sector of the mostly Radical attendance interrupted and called for the autonomy of Quequen port, which belongs to the Peronist-ruled locality of Loberia. Buenos Aires Governor Alejandro Armendariz, who was also present, interjected: "We will look into the matter."

The new port facilities were built from co-operative funds and Alfonsin reflected: "This is the achievement of the people of Argentina, the principle player in national co-operativism." He pointed to the selfless team-work and cooperation of "the Coast Guard, Fabricaciones Militares (FM), the General Ports' Administration (AGP), and Port Constructions in this gigantic task of improvement undertaken by Argentine hands."

He warned "news of what is being done will undoubtedly reach the North and, while I do not know if they will react immediately, I can assure you that what we have during one of the worst crises our country has ever known will make its mark in the moral conscience of men and nations throughout the world." Said Alfonsin: "We will overcome our political differences and continue with the task of port modernization in order to facilitate exports which -- although northern countries do not believe it -- will be more and more important day-by-day.

ALFONSIN, ABRAMS DISCUSS CENTRAL AMERICA

PY022144 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1556 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 May (TELAM) -- Following a 40-minute meeting between President Raul Alfonsin and the new U.S. Government envoy [as received] Elliott Abrams at the Olivos residence today, presidential spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez told newsmen that Alfonsin and Abrams had analyzed the Central American situation and the steps that all parties must take to assure the signing of the Contadora Peace Treaty on 6 June.

Lopez said that early in the meeting, trilateral [as received] relations were analyzed. Later, regional situations were carefully examined, especially that of Central America. The Presidential spokesman explained that Alfonsin and Abrams also analyzed steps to be taken to assure the signing of the Contadora peace treaty on 6 June.

Abrams, the Reagan administration's assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs, arrived in Argentina yesterday, shortly after U.S. representative Philip Habib visited the country to discuss the same subjects with Alfonsin and the Foreign Ministry officials. Foreign Ministry Dante Caputo, Foreign Ministry Under Secretary for Latin American Affairs Raul Alconada Sempe, U.S. Ambassador to Argentina Frank Ortiz, and U.S. State Department official Flower Ludlow [as received] also participated in the meeting between Alfonsin and Abrams. Lopez was the only government official to report on the meeting because none of the other participants made statements to the press.

Upon his arrival at Ezeiza Airport, Abrams was well-informed on the position of the Argentine Government regarding the Central American crisis. He told the press he was sure his visit would increase understanding between our governments and peoples.

President Alfonsin will meet at Olivos at 1900 today with Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco, who also arrived in Argentina yesterday. Diplomatic sources have attached great importance to that meeting, bearing in mind that the Nicaraguan Government has not yet decided whether it will sign the agreement proposed by the Contadora Group. The same sources indicated that Tinoco will immediately report the outcome of the meeting to the Nicaraguan Government, headed by Daniel Ortega. Tinoco stated that he will discuss with President Alfonsin the Central American situation and the peace efforts of the Contadora Group.

ALFONSIN MEETS NICARAGUA'S TINOCO AT OLIVOS

PY030319 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0015 GMT 3 May 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 2 May (NA) -- President Raul Alfonsin and Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco tonight agreed on the need "to remove all obstacles" that may impede the signing of a peace act for the Central American region. This was officially reported at the end of a 50-minute meeting between Tinoco and Alfonsin at the Olivos presidential residence.

Following the meeting presidential spokesman Jose Ignacio Lopez reported that Alfonsin and Tinoco had "continued to study procedures that must be followed to remove obstacles that may impede the signing of a peace act." This issue was also discussed during a 1-hour meeting Alfonsin held this morning at the Olivos residence with Elliott Abrams, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs.

Alfonsin and Tinoco discussed in detail the Central American crisis and in particular the conditions under which Nicaragua would not sign the Contadora Peace Act, which the countries involved plan to sign at midnight on 6 June. Tinoco has reportedly told Alfonsin that the Sandinist government will not sign the peace act if the United States continues to aid the Nicaraguan contras. Nevertheless, Tinoco reportedly reasserted the "willingness" of Daniel Ortega's government to hold a dialogue.

Tinoco Meets Press

PA050415 Paris AFP in Spanish 0012 GMT 4 May 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 May (AFP) -- Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Hugo Tinoco reiterated in Buenos Aires today that his government is "the government most interested in attaining peace" in Central America, but he said that that goal will not be achieved so long as the U.S. aid to the contras continues.

In statements to the press at the end of his 3-day visit to Argentina, Tinoco asked the following question: "What peace document can be signed if the United States has not yet given any signs of being willing to end its military maneuvers in the region, and to reduce its build-up?"

The Nicaraguan deputy foreign minister reiterated that the government headed by Daniel Ortega does not "rule out" the possibility of a U.S. direct action and he stressed that so long as this threat exists, "it is very unlikely that the Contadora Group efforts will succeed."

Regarding the signing of the peace document on 6 June, Tinoco said that "the document will only represent the achievement of an agreement on the points that will have to be taken into consideration to attain peace in the region." Tinoco added: "However, it is after that point that the political discussion to establish the specific measures to guarantee compliance with the document will begin." During his visit to Argentina, Tinoco met with President Raul Alfonsin and Foreign Minister Dante Caputo.

APPEALS JUDGE INVOLVED IN JUNTA TRIALS RESIGNS

PY042347 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 4 May 86 p 1

[Text] (NA-DYN) -- Federal Appeals Court Judge Jorge Edwin Torlasco resigned yesterday for "private reasons," though he was known to have objected strongly to the Defense Ministry's "due obedience" instructions to the Armed Forces Supreme Council. One of six judges who tried and convicted the former military junta commanders last year, Torlasco saw the instructions as "a true amnesty" for lower-ranking military officers accused of human rights abuses, according to court source.

Contacted by telephone, Torlasco said that he sent his resignation to the Justice Ministry on Monday, but agreed not to make it public until after a meeting of all six judges with President Raul Alfonsin on Friday night. The resignation was announced a few hours after the meeting at the presidential residence in Olivos. At least two other judges were reportedly considering resigning along with Torlasco. Torlasco would only say that he "gave the explanations (for the resignation) to the President."

The instructions, issued by Defence Minister German Lopez on April 24, directed the Supreme Council to speed up human rights trials and bar junior officers from prosecution on the grounds that they were following orders from above, unless they committed "atrocities" or "departed" from orders. There was no word on who would be named to replace Torlasco.

Court sources said that the human rights trials of former Buenos Aires province police chief General Ramon Camps and other officers would not be affected by Torlasco's absence.

In Cordoba, a court source said Lopez's instructions will have no effect on the trials of General Luciano Benjamin Menendez and 14 other officers in connection with torture and murder at the notorious La Perla detention centre outside the city. The Cordoba Federal Appeals Court will decide within the next ten days whether it will try the Menendez case, since various time limits for the Armed Forces Supreme Council to come up with a sentense have passed. The Council has sent all information in the case to the Appeals Court, as ordered by the latter.

About 80 percent of the charges were presented by the National Commission for the Disappearance of Persons (CONADEP) and relatives of people who disappeared during repression in Cordoba while Menendez was commander of the Third Army Corps there.

Other charges were brought by former Peronist leader and La Perla prisoner Graciela Susana Geuna from her current residence in Switzerland.

SALDIVAR SAYS RELATIONS WITH U.S. 'NORMAL'

PY061351 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 6 May 86 p 11

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Carlos Augusto Saldivar said yesterday in Washington that at present U.S.-Paraguayan relations "are good and normal." The foreign minister said this after several meetings with U.S. State Department officials, including Elliott Abrams, the U.S. assistant secretary of state for inter-American affairs. Saldivar also noted that Paraguay's domestic situation "is normal" but said that "subversive groups had taken advantage "of a recent salary increase request." He noted the government had responded to the workers' requests and added that the press and radio "enjoy complete freedom to fulfill their duties."

NANDUTI'S RUBIN WANTS GRADUAL TRANSITION

PY061821 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1315 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Buenos Aires, 6 May (TELAM) -- Humberto Rubin, owner of Radio Nanduti in Asuncion, today voiced his disbelief that the Stroessner era is approaching an end and voiced his support for a gradual transition toward democracy, since there is no opposition, no organized groups that represent a political alternative.

Talking to Radio Continental, Rubin confirmed that his radio station had been attacked and that equipment was destroyed, making the resumption of broadcasts impossible. He was asked whether he believed that the Stroessner era was approaching its last days in view of the contact that the U.S. Embassy has been maintaining with the Catholic Church and members of the opposition. Rubin commented: I believe it is an expression of such a desire on the part of some people. These people must have some grounds. However, I do not agree.

Rubin added: I do not think one can say that this is the end of this system; another one is starting. I do not think it is that easy. To learn to live in democracy is like learning to walk. Rubin went on to say: I do not think this is the appropriate time. There is no opposition in this country. There is no group here, no one that may represent an alternative. I believe that the process should develop more gradually, more intelligently and rationally. I do not agree with the system. We do not have any democracy, any liberty here. However, I still favor an organized process instead of believing that one can change from one day to the next, he added.

In referring to Paraguayan public opinion, Rubin said that there are people who talk, who have lost their fear, who come forward and speak out. I think we are trying to learn a new language and that the government will have to sit down to negotiate, he added.

Regarding yesterday's report on demonstrations of the opposition and the ringing of all church bells, Rubin denied that they took place and explained that a priest, Father Americo Ferreyra, said policemen had prevented them from ringing the bells. Rubin added that Ferreyra told him that if they received an order from the Archbishopric they were going to ring the bells. He stated that no police officer is going to prevent us from doing so. However, the priest said that no church bells were rung because the suggestion was made by laymen.

He warned that communist elements might take advantage of the situation and confirmed that the medical school had been seized by police forces. He ended by saying that one of the medical school leaders is under arrest and a writ of habeas corpus was filed on his behalf today.

CHURCH ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON BELL TOLLING

PY070257 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 6 May 86 p 8

[Communique issued by the Asuncion Archbishopric]

[Text] Following consultations by the Curia of Parish Priests on the visit of policemen who in various ways tried to head off an alleged diocesan plan "to toll bells" as a sign of protest against the violence unleashed on the streets in recent days against defenseless and peaceful demonstrators and against the ridiculous and grotesque assault on the Hospital de Clinicas -- a venerable institution serving the public -- the church must speak out and say things as they are. In honor of truth and justice, the following must be clearly understood:

1. The church as an institution has never been an agency of the state, much less of the police. In fact:

1.1. Article 6 of the Contitution reads: "The official religion of the Paraguayan State is the Catholic, Apostolic, and Roman religion, without detriment to the freedom of worship..."

1.2 Law 863 of 26 June 1963 reads: "Whereas the Constitution declares the Catholic, Apostolic, and Roman religion to be the official religion of the Paraguayan State and, consequently, the Catholic Church is entitled to preferential treatment in the country, since it renders important services for the benefit of general and professional education, of Indian missions and charity institutions, and of the intellectual, moral, and physical culture of the people; and any favor the government can confer on the Paraguayan Church to facilitate the fulfillment of its lofty social mission conforms with the Catholic tradition of the large majority of the Paraguayan people..."

"Article 1: The Catholic, Apostolic, and Roman church is recognized as a legitimate society and is as such guaranteed the free exercise of its spiritual power and jurisdiction. In conformity with the Constitution and the tradition of the Paraguayan people, it will continue to enjoy the protection, rights, and prerogatives it is entitled to as it has enjoyed them up to the present. Consequently, the Catholic Church is an indispensable juridical body."

2. Therefore: The ecclesiastical authorities, and they alone, can administer their undertakings, schools, churches, and other institutions, as well as their means of apostolization and evangelization, in any way they deem appropriate and opportune for the fulfillment of their mission of serving the people spiritually and culturally.

3. The bells are one of the traditional instruments of the church's religious action. They are considered the voice of the church, the mother and teacher, to call the faithful and to announce liturgical ceremonies, and they can also be used to announce serious danger, calamity, and public mishap, as well as to be harbingers of happy and momentous events.

4. In the present circumstances, Catholic youths and members of the secular apostolate movement have intended to express, through the tolling of bells in the parishes, their symbolic agreement with the general protest against violence and their support for nonvoilence.

The Curia did not issue a resolution on this occasion.

CORDON AROUND HOSPITAL LIFTED; PHONES RESTORED

PY062223 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 6 May 86 p 8

[Excerpts] At noon today Police Inspector General Domingo Galeano, who heads Police Station No 1, officially informed the dean of the School of Medicine, the director of the Hospital de Clinicas, and representatives of hospital employees and students that the police have lifted the cordon around the hospital. This means that from now on all those who work at the hospital will be able to discharge their duties freely. At about the same time as Inspector General Galeano's announcement, the hospital telephone lines began to operate normally. They were cut off yesterday afternoon, causing uncertainty and fears that the situation might deteriorate further. To many hospital employees, these measures are seen to be "quite positive."

DOCTORS TO STRIKE UNTIL COLLEAGUE'S RELEASE

PY061906 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 6 May 86 p 8

[Excerpts] The joint assembly of unions of doctors, employees, and nurses of the Hospital de Clinicas, as well as students from the Medical School, yesterday decided to continue with the strike until Dr Carlos Filizzola is released from jail. The assembly was held despite strict police control. The Medical School board is seeking an end to repressive actions, and the director of HOY newspaper today will study solutions to the problem with a doctors' committee. A joint assembly of doctors, employees, and nurses of the Hospital de Clinicas and medical students which was held yesterday despite police cordons near the Medical School decided to continue with the strike until Dr Carlos Filizzola, who is being held at the Asuncion Police Investigations office, is released and the police near the school are withdrawn. Another assembly is scheduled for today at the Hospital de Clinicas to continue discussing the issue.

As of 0700 the police continued to strictly control access to the Hospital de Clinicas, which has been without any telephone communications since 1400 hours, leaving without communication hundreds of employees and students, who are working with their patients under great difficulty and stress. The assembly ended yesterday with the singing of the national anthem. According to some who attended the assembly, about 700 people who had entered the building at different times took part in the assembly. At noon yesterday, in the Hospital de Clinicas neighborhood at least, there was the sound of sirens, bells, the beating of pots and pans, and other noises. Some neighbors came out of their houses to beat pots and pans while others stayed inside and made loud noises.

PLR HEAD NOTES POSSIBLE WITHDRAWAL FROM CONGRESS

PY061607 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 6 May 86 p 7

[Text] Radical Liberal Party [PLR] President Emilio Forestieri, asked about alleged negotiations between PLR authorities and Colorado Party authorities, noted that these negotiations are indeed taking place, and that based on the results of these negotiations the PLR will decide whether or not to withdraw its representatives from Congress and municipal governments throughout the country.

Forestieri noted that the PLR board will meet on 8 May to make a decision on this issue. He added: "We are extremely concerned about recent violence perpetrated by savage hordes. It is obvious that the members of these vandalistic groups are incapable of living in peaceful and democratic coexistence. They must be brought to trial because they must answer for their actions. To do this, however, we must have the support of influential Colorado Party leaders, who, we are sure, share our concern for the recent escalation of violence."

OPPOSITION CLAIMS TELEPHONE INTERFERENCE

PY062233 Asuncion LA TARDE in Spanish 6 May 86 p 10

[Text] Opposition party leaders have complained that party office telephone lines and private telephones have had cuts in service. They have also said that their conversations are being interfere with and that they suspect their conversations are being monitored. Liberal Party President Dr Atilio Burgos has complained that his party's telephone was cut off at mid-morning yesterday but that it was restored in the afternoon of the same day. "We do not know what happened, but we moved heaven and earth to have the service restored," he said. He explained that there was no payment delay that could justify the measure.

Radical Liberal Party President Emilio Forestieri has also reported that his telephone conversations have frequently been subject to interference, stressing that this is unfair persecution. "I do not understand why they harass decent people instead of criminals and thieves," he complained.

Recently, many telephone lines have been subject to frequent cuts and interference, particularly those of the news media that report statements by opposition members, as in the case of Radio Charitas and Radio Nanduti. Following the attack on its transmission facilities, Radio Nanduti resumed transmissions and complained that its telephones operated only for incoming and not outgoing calls. This problem, which was reported on 3 May, has now been corrected.

PLRA HOLDS CONGRESS IN BRAZILIAN BORDER TOWN

PY061505 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 6 May 86 p 7

[Text] The congress of leaders of the Authentic Radical Liberal Party [PLRA], which was held in Foz do Iguaco, Brazil, issued a communique voicing "full solidarity with the intimidated media." The document gives a detailed account of the attack on Radio Nanduti and voices its support of the station's director and employees. The meeting was held at the Rafain Hotel in Foz do Iguaco and was attended by delegates of PLRA branches in Buenos Aires, Formosa, and Posadas, Argentina, and by representatives from inside Paraguay. The meeting was also attended to by Domingo Laino, who spoke about the country's current political situation.

Juan Carlos Zaldivar [PLRA leader] also addressed the meeting. He referred to the plan he intends to develop should he be elected in the next PLRA elections.

Other current topics, such as the Hospital de Clinicas and the need to end the exile of Paraguayan citizens, were discussed. Speakers requested that Laino, Augusto Roa Bastos, Ruben Bareiro Saguier, Herminio Gimenez, Elvio Romero, and others be allowed to return to Paraguay.

RADIO PERSONALITY BANNED FROM BROADCASTING

PY031722 Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 2 May 86 p 10

[Excerpt] Radio personality Victor Miguel Benitez has been banned from broadcasting. This professional has lately been working in Radio Paraguay, whose executives abruptly informed him that a resolution dismissing him from the job would soon be signed. It was learned that the totally unexpected measure can be traced to strong pressures from governmental agencies which do not agree with the way Benitez has been handling local information.

Victor Miguel Benitez confirmed the situation and said that for 3 days he has not been allowed to broadcast. He reported that for some compelling reason, the format of the radio program he hosted has been changed to the old style of playing music and reading commercials between songs. Benitez speculated that perhaps his style of free dissemination of information did not sit well with some sectors.

CORRECTION TO 'VOICE OF COLORADO' ON 'SUBVERSION'

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "'Voice of Colorado' on Fighting 'Subversion,'" published in the 6 May Latin America DAILY REPORT on pages H2 and H3. Insert the following paragraphs on page H3, paragraph two, line four:

...their criminal plans.

Each Colorado Party member should stand guard for peace; each Colorado Party branch should become a bastion, a well defended by determined people.

From this program we have time and again charged that these acts designed to disrupt tranquillity were strategically and chronologically planned by local agitators with the support of international agitators who infiltrated our country through certain well-identified diplomatic missions. These agitators are acting everywhere, especially and for obvious reasons in democratic anticommunist countries. One of their main goals is to destabilize our nations by sowing chaos and anarchy to pave the way for subversive communist infiltration.

These actions are similar to those taking place in other areas, where tension has risen to its peak. Those events that have occurred in Asuncion have followed the same pattern and are aimed at achieving the same objectives. We are again denouncing that these actions are being carried out with the overt complicity of some nosy diplomats who have unscrupulously participated in antigovernment demonstrations.

The Colorado Party ... [inserting omitted passage]

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADORS APPOINTED -- Dr Esteban Ojeda Saldivar, who acted as ambassador to Spain, has been appointed ambassador to Ecuador. Dr Gilberto Canize Sanchis, who acted as ambassador to Ecuador, has been appointed ambassador to Spain. Miguel T. Romero, who acted as ambassador to Uruguay, has been appointed ambassador to Peru. Dr Roque Jacinto Yodice, who acted as ambassador to Italy, has been appointed ambassador to Uruguay. [Summary] [Asuncion ULTIMA HORA in Spanish 1 May 86 p 19 PY]

SHINING PATH CLAIMS MURDER OF VICE ADMIRAL

PY061346 Lima Panamericana Television Network in Spanish 0300 GMT 6 May 86

[Excerpt] The Shining Path tonight claimed responsibility for the murder of Vice Admiral Carlos Alberto Ponce de Leon Canessa and announced through a telephone call that 20 high-ranking officers of the police forces, including the interior minister and deputy minister, will also be murdered. The attack against Admiral Ponce took place as he was leaving his house in Orrantia for the Navy Ministry. Three men and two women shot at him and hurled explosives against his vehicle which was damaged seriously.

War Minister on Security

PY061622 Paris AFP in Spanish 0014 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Lima, 5 May (AFP) -- War Minister General Jorge Flores Torres today requested Armed Forces and police officers reinforce their security measures after the attack against Vice Admiral Carlos Ponce de Leon Canessa, the former chief of naval intelligence. The defense minister said that through the killing of Vice Admiral Ponce de Leon Canessa the Shining Path Maoist guerrillas wanted to avenge the hard blows that the Armed Forces have inflicted on terrorist actions in Lima, Ayacucho, Huancavelica and Apurimac.

In the past 4 weeks more than 100 persons have died in Peru because of violent actions, most of them Shining Path guerrillas killed by Armed Forces troops in Peru's southeast Andean region. Vice Admiral Ponce was killed this morning by five guerrilla youths who detonated three grenades inside the admiral's car. The admiral was on his way from his residence to the Navy Ministry where he was Navy staff coordinator. Ponce assumed this post in January. Until 31 December he held the post of director of naval intelligence.

So far this year guerrillas have killed seven Peruvian officers: two from the Navy, two from the Army, and three from the Civil Guard. Ponce was the first high-ranking Armed Forces officer to be asassinated in what apparently is a new stage of selective terrorism, according to the war minister.

PRESIDENT GARCIA ANNOUNCES SALARY INCREASES

PY031857 Lima America Television in Spanish 0415 GMT 3 May 86

[Speech by President Alan Garcia at the Jose Galves del Callao Plaza in Ica on 2 May -- recorded]

[Excerpts] Fellow Peruvians: After more than 1 year, I am again here at this historic plaza to greet you. Last time, I visited you on a Holy Saturday in my capacity as a presidential candidate. Today, I am also visiting you on another glorious day, but thanks to your votes I am doing so in my capacity as your president. This is also a glorious day because it is the eve of the resurrection of our fatherland. [applause]

I reassert before all of you that democracy in Peru does not mean that one can watch idly while the government is confronting strikes, problems and conflicts. Because if the people voted for this government, it is their responsibility and their historical obligation to help their government, to understand its tasks, and the difficulties affecting the country.

It is their responsibility to be aware that rational participation is the basis of democracy and that this is achieved not only by showing enthusiasm but by exhibiting deep understanding. This is the only way we can achieve a true democracy in our country.

Democracy and national development cannot be achieved by a single party or a single man, no matter how illustrious they may be. Democracy must be the organized structure of the people's awareness. Only thus shall the tasks that are undertaken today be long-lasting.

Almost 1 year after assuming office, I ask that the Peruvian people not only offer their loyalty through their votes and expressions but also express their support through their efforts and to back up their government during these difficult times.

Today we are not going to issue a salary increase in answer to the pressures exerted by those who have income. I hereby state that it is a planned and controlled economy, that is, the new economy of [word indistinct] of an APRA [American Popular Revolutionary Alliance] government that has overcome previous economic disorder, that is granting a substantial salary increase as of 1 June ... [corrects himself] as of 1 July to workers and public employees so they may also substantially improve their well-being and increase their purchasing power and therefore gradually allow teachers, doctors, employees, and workers to achieve a better standard of living. [applause]

A democratic and socialist government leader must meet the needs of the most poor sectors. I have not deceived anyone in my capacity as an APRA representative. (?During the election) campaign I said that democracy is built by helping those who are poorest, and this government is helping them first. [applause]

MILITARY LEADERS MEET WITH CHILEAN COUNTERPARTS

PY061733 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1952 GMT 5 May 86

[Excerpt] Lima, 5 May (EFE) -- A Chilean military delegation today arrived in Lima to study, with the Peruvian military leadership, cutbacks in arms purchases by the two countries. Upon arriving at Air Force Base No 8 in Callao, the Chilean delegation made no statement.

The delegation includes Army Chief of Staff General Jorge Oryan, Air Force Chief of Staff Aviation General Carlos Degraux, Navy Chief of Staff Admiral German Gasalaga, Army Major General Alejandro Medina Lois, and Carlos Bustos, a representative of the Chilean Foreign Ministry.

The Chilean and Peruvian military representatives today begin negotiations, which will last until next Wednesday. The meetings, the first of several, are being held at the suggestions of Peru as part of its policy of seeking rapprochement with neighboring countries, eliminating tensions and fears, and allocating more funds for development, as proposed by President Alan Garcia on 28 July 1985 when he was inaugurated.

Peruvian Foreign Minister Allan Wagner, who last year met twice with his Chilean counterpart, Jaime del Valle, to agree on the holding of these high-level military meetings, said last Saturday that no spectacular initial results should be expected because the negotiations will be long. In this regard, Peruvian War Minister General Jorge Flores Torres today stated that it is expected that "during these talks and in the next talks, we will achieve a cutback in arms purchases to allocate more funds to development."

Concerning a recent announcement that Brazil will sell $1 billion worth of arms to Chile, the Peruvian war minister said that this is "shocking," considering that the announcement coincides with the beginning of the Peruvian-Chilean negotiations.

POLICE GUARD AT U.S. MISSION 'INSUFFICIENT'

PY021515 Lima EXPRESO in Spanish 24 Apr 86 p 20

[Editorial: "The Predictable Car-Bomb"]

[Text] The residence of the U.S. ambassador to Peru was attacked at 0515 on 21 April, apparently by members of the Tupac Amaru Revolutionary Movement. The car-bomb used for the attack caused damage, but fortunately claimed no lives. The objective of this editorial is not only to condemn the terrorist and homicidal methods used by a small group of fanatics who want to be in the news, something that EXPRESO has repeatedly done, this editorial also wants to emphasize the unbelievable fact that the U.S. Embassy had insufficient police surveillance at a time when actions like the attack on 21 April were totally predictable. There were several reasons why the attack was predictable, the main one being the predictable reactions against diplomatic missions -- especially those in countries where there are subversive movements -- in the wake of the U.S. attack against Libya. There are in Peru several antidemocratic groups that have already attacked U.S. targets. It was, therefore, logical to expect that they would take advantage of the situation to strike again and make a propaganda hit.

There was negligence on the part of the police. Why did they not foresee a possible attack against the U.S. Embassy? Especially at a time when the world press -- and also the Peruvian press -- was speculating over the revenge that subversives would take on the representatives of a government that had just attacked Libya on charges of promoting terrorism in Europe, the Middle East, and Latin America. It is also unexplainable why there were so few policemen guarding the U.S. Embassy barely 15 minutes after the curfew ended. This time the attack only damaged the residence, but something much worse could have happened. Let us consider this for the future.

GARCIA ON FOREIGN DEBT, CONTADORA, TERRORISM

PA031614 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 30 Apr 86 pp 1, 17

[Interview with President Alan Garcia by Jorge Octavio Ochoa in Lima on 29 April]

[Excerpts] Lima, Peru, 29 Apr -- To abuse power and fail to respect the rights of the weakest countries can also be categorized as state terrorism, President Alan Garcia emphasized to EL DIA, after saying that the U.S. position on Nicaragua is a serious obstacle for Contadora, but it is also "the cause and justification of Contadora."

[Ochoa] Some worldwide news organizations have reported that Peru has negotiated "under the table" with the IMF and in the fund's own home: Washington.

[Garcia] Well, that is because people, some people -- and we must admit that at times opinions are formed in an irresponsible manner -- cannot accept that a country can govern itself, and as their mentality is colonial and fearful they always say: It is impossible that they prevented the IMF from governing Peru's economy, it is impossible; there must be some secret arrangement. It is their guilty minds that make them think that way, but it is absolutely false.

[Ochoa] Your government has adopted a position different from the rest of Latin America's. Does this make you feel committed to some sort of leadership or, on the contrary, does it make you feel isolated and without the support of the other countries in the region?

[Garcia] I feel like an anti-imperialist, deeply involved in continental integration and unity. I know that any transformation in Peru could be temporary and short-lived if it is not made within the framework of continental renewal to achieve democratic affirmation and economic independence. Naturally, this does not mean that we are looking for messianic leaders on the continent but, as I understand it, people do not make historic processes; people create initiatives and ideas. I am convinced that time is on Latin America's side and that, in the end, this serious debt problem -- of which we should all be aware -- will lead us all to the same path of willingness and action. Of course, I dismiss the idea of forcing other government to do what the Peruvian Government does. What we are interested in is continental solidarity in response to any eventuality, and not exporting a model that only fits Peru, because it resulted from Peru's condition.

[Ochoa] Do you feel lonely?

[Garcia] I do not feel lonely or accompanied.

[Ochoa] Latin America's integration has been deeply desired by our peoples. What are the results so far?

[Garcia] I believe this is a lengthy process that should not discourage us. If national problems progress and retrogress in each country, the continental problem is greater, and we must not be discouraged because we are not progressing at the rate we would like. I believe that our integration should be made through the awareness of those of us in charge of making decisions by unifying these decisions. I have not lost faith and hope in the fact that the whole point of history is that we will reach an agreement.

I believe that the Contadora Group is a significant experience. We formed the Contadora Support Group to prevent the failure of an initiative that is historic for Latin America, that should be the first chapter of our discussion of the debt problem, later, together, as a political decisiosn also. I have not lost hope that despite delays we are on the right path.

[Ochoa] Nevertheless this effort, in the Contadora Group's case, faces serious obstacles, such as the U.S. Government's insistence on supporting a counterrevolution in Nicaragua.

[Garcia] The United States is a serious obstacle, but it is also the cause and justification of the Contadora Group. Now more than ever the spirit of Contadora should be affirmed by each of its members. Such attitudes are adopted by a country or government that does not take very seriously its great responsibility for its technology and its potential as the greatest power in the world.

I believe that at times a lack of awareness of one's strength makes one overbearing, inciting, and provocative, and I believe that is negative. I believe it is necessary to be a little more humble, more just, and more cautious, especially when one has a great deal of power. One has to be prepared to deal with this strength. I do not believe this is the situation we are experiencing.

[Ochoa] It can be said that the abuse of strength, the abuse of power, has led to a sort of state terrorism.

[Garcia] It is evident that bitter actions against international law are taking place that could be described as state terrorism. Yes, I agree that to fail to respect the situation of the weaker countries could be described as state terrorism.

[Ochoa] Then we could describe as state terrorism, for example, the U.S. attack on Libya, and its insistence on toppling the Nicaraguan Government through the use of armed groups and economic sanctions.

[Garcia] Those are two very different topics. In the first case I would not use that description, but I would say that greater caution and judgment are required when one has so much strength. In the second case, in Nicaragua's case, I have expressed my full support of Central America's sovereignty and self-determination, and I therefore reject that form of interventionism, which unfairly involves the American people in their administration's actions.

[Ochoa] What is your government's position in regard to terrorism?

[Garcia] We are opposed to violence. Violence can only breed counterviolence, excluding democratic and reasonable solutions. History has proven that. I believe that the law of arms only favors those who have brute force and that is not the point of human history. I believe in the capability of persuasion, of action. Therefore, utopian or desperate solutions will never have our support, whatever the case may be. Violence is an instrument that should be used, at most, to defend national sovereignty or the right to survival when threatened by a social group, but for political actions it is best to use education and to trust in the people and their ability to acquire knowledge.

[Ochoa] How does Peru fight against terrorism, with violence, with negotiation?

[Garcia] During the past few days you have witnessed urban terrorism; bombs in front of an embassy, the murder of civil policemen. But these are the desperate resources of uneducated social groups. They are groups organized without theories, without any training, factions of a deeply powerful totalitarianism, which is the structure of social violence in a country that is not very different from the rest of countries in America. Their violence is fed by televised propagandist stimuli, by the conditions of social disillusionment in response to poverty. It is violence tolerated, moreover, by a system that has done very little in favor of the misguided and impoverished people and which, furthermore, has not stated itself an alternative of democratic solutions, transformations, and expressions. Therefore, the causes are very deep and I am convinced that it is a problem that calls for a great deal of patience and that a long time will pass. Democracy should be implemented properly, solidly, defeating violence within the civilized and democratic rules of struggle against the concrete violence of arms, but within a broader and greater framework, which includes understanding the deep causes of historical violence.

You have been here for 4 days and have had occasion to know how the national budget has been reorganized this year in favor of basic projects and in favor of the poorer Andean zones and the peasant communities, to which we are allotting the largest amounts of funds for the first time in Peruvian history.

The process of redistributing society, understanding by redistributing economic, social and also cultural factors, is one of the government's objectives.

DRAFT RESOLUTION DENOUNCES ANTI-GOVERNMENT 'PLOT'

PA061232 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] The honorable Legislative Assembly of Panama received this afternoon a draft of an official recolution publicly denouncing a plot against the Panamanian nation. The document, submitted a little after 1700 today by legislator Luis Gomez, is aimed at condemning the seditious actions of Roberto Eisenmann, Gilberto Arias, Ricardo Arias Calderon, Carlos Rodriguez, Ivan Robles, and Winston Robles, all of whom are called traitors. It also denounces and condemns the interventionist action of U.S. citizens Jesse Helms, Norman Bailey, Chris Mannion, and Constantine Menges.

According to the resolution, the Assembly would give instructions to Camilo Gozaine, president of the Legislative Assembly, to deliver to the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives the strongest protest from Panamanian legislators for their open intervention in the interests and internal affairs of a friendly country. The draft resolution submitted to the Legislative Assembly is not the only reaction of the past few hours to the seditious plot which has been aimed at toppling the legally established government.

Televisora Nacional also learned that Foreign Minister Jorge Abadia Arias will make public in coming hours the text of the official protest note that has been delivered to U.S. Ambassador Arthur Davis, in which the Panamanian Government expresses to the U.S. Government its dissatisfaction with actions being carried out in the United States.

Meanwhile, a large number of reporters have received copies of the document drafted by a majority of Panamanian legislators in which they report, step-by-step, the development of the seditious plot unleashed against the Panamanian state since October 1985. In the voluminous document they present photostatic evidence and confidential documents, as well as newspapers clippings, the sequence of which shows the manipulation of domestic and international news, systematically advocating unconstitutional changes by overthrowing President Eric Arturo Delvalle and replacing General Manuel Antonio Noriega as commander of the Defense Forces.

The evidence delivered to Televisora Nacional includes a video cassette of legislator Mayin Correa's participation in a program recorded by a U.S. television station not long ago. It also includes political dossiers of the political leaders containing their most recent activities.

After reviewing the extensive document, the Televisora Nacional news team has reached the conclusion that the main objective of the plot is to eliminate the decolonization program in the canal area as established in the Torrijos-Carter Treaties by maintaining U.S. military forces in our territory beyond the year 2000. Other objectives are to install a new ruling group in the country and to get Panama out of the Contadora Group so that our country does not continue the struggle for the total pacification of the region.

LA PRENSA: GOVERNMENT HAS NO EVIDENCE OF PLOT

PA061507 Panama City LA PRENSA in Spanish 6 May 86 p 1

["As of Today" column]

[Text] Several days ago the president of the Republic, accompanied by his ministers and a large group of Defense Forces officers, announced to the country that they have evidence about a conspiracy involving Panamanian and U.S. nationals against the government, the Armed Forces, and the fulfillment of the canal treaties. The foreign minister, who was supposed to reaad the evidence, limited himself to translating excerpts of various reports of the U.S. State Department. He interpreted them as a sort-of good conduct certificate for the Panamanian Government. During that event they promised to deliver a copy of the conspiracy evidence to the national and international press. However, to date no copy has been given to the media or to authorities legally empowered to carry out an investigation on the alleged existence of a conspiracy or sedtion. Now a group of legislators, claiming that "there is extensive evidence" of sedition, are trying to get the Legislative Assembly to approve a resolution to brand certain Panamanians as traitors, condemn alleged meddling by U.S. senators, and present a protest to the U.S. Congress. The draft resolution was not discussed yesterday due to a lack of votes to alter the order of the day. However, there is no doubt that its advocates will insist on it in upcoming sessions. They will prove nothing more than that the Legislative Branch has the same ability to put on a show as ridiculous as the one staged by the executive branch, by dwelling on an imaginary conspiracy.

CONATO 'ACTION PLAN' OUTLINED ON MAY DAY

PA021518 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 2 May 86 p 1

[Text] The National Council of Organized Workers (Conato) yesterday commemorated the 100th anniversary of the heroic feat that led to the declaration of 1 May as International Labor day.

During a rally at Panama City's "5 May Square," the Panamanian workers reiterated their position on Panama's current situation.

The keynote speaker at the event was Conato Coordinator Edilberto Mendez.

During his address Mendez recalled Conato's commitment to offer the Panamanian people a viable alternative to overcome the current crisis and pave the way to peace, democracy, independence, and social progress.

Conato's coordinator said: "On the 100th anniversary of May Day, we tell the workers that it is imperative to stop the warmongering actions of the U.S. leaders by boycotting and denouncing their actions and expressing active solidarity with our Central American and Libyan brothers."

Mendez cited as one of the major accomplishments of the Panamanian workers the introduction by labor leader Andres Mojica of a bill in the National Assembly to establish 8-hour work days. The bill became law and was included in the Administrative Code by virtue of the workers' movement struggle.

He hailed the general strike of indefinite duration declared on 10 March to protest the reforms to the labor, industrial, and agricultural-livestock laws.

He recalled that the strike virtually froze the nation's economic activities, an unprecedented happening in the country's history.

He remembered the heroic feat of Chicago's workers 100 years ago. He then set forth Conato's action plan, which includes:

1. Struggle to reestablish and improve the rights and guarantees the working class lost with the passing of Laws No 8 of 30 April 1981 and No 1 of 17 March 1986.

2. Struggle for the implementation of nationalistic and sovereign industrial, agricultural-livestock, and labor policies, while stepping up the struggle against the IMF, World Bank, multinational companies, and the national government's opposition to those principles.

3. Struggle for a national development plan as an answer to the government's decision.

4. Reform the fiscal system so that those with more goods and wealth will pay more, both percentage-wise and quantitatively.

5. Struggle against the high cost of living through the effective control of prices.

6. Struggle to establish a scientific, democratic, and nationalistic educational system.

7. Struggle to make all of the electoral mechanisms and other laws regulating the people's political expression and participation truly democratic.

8. Demand that the meeting of Latin American presidents to be held in Panama adopt decisions on the new international world order and international monetary systems, Latin American economic integration, and the collective negotiation of the foreign debt between Latin America's debtor nations and the international banks.

COSTA RICA

GUTIERREZ ON NICARAGUAN LAUNCH, ARIAS INAUGURATION

PA061949 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1844 GMT 6 May 86

[Report by Ana Cecilia (?Espinar) from the Costa Rican Foreign Ministry]

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez has sent a letter to the [words indistinct] Nicaraguan minister on the launch that arrived in our country last Friday. [as heard] Its crew members had requested political asylum in Costa Rica. In his letter, Foreign Minister Gutierrez stated the following:

I am replying to Your Excellency's letter dated 26 April, stating that a group of unidentified persons seized a Nicaraguan launch [words indistinct] and took it to a Costa Rican port, together with its crew. I regret to point out to Your Excellency that the group of unidentified persons who [words indistinct] and brought the launch into Costa Rica, comprises the entire crew who were allegedly kidnapped. The names of the crew members coincide with the names of the crew members you kindly listed in your letter dated 26 April. (?Undoubtedly), the crew willingly took the launch to Costa Rica. They have rquested that the Costa Rican Government let them in as refugees. Therefore, it seems unlikely that they would want to be returned to Nicargua.

In this regard, I regretfuly point out to Your Excellency that we cannot provide the assistance requested. Regarding the return of the launch, I have already informed the honorable Nicaraguan Embassy in San Jose that the launch is at the disposal of Nicaraguan officials at Puerto Limon dock. I take advantage of this opportunity to reiterate to Your Excellency my highest and distinguished consideration.

[Signed] Carlos Jose Gutierrez.

On another matter, the foreign minister commented on the vice presidents' meeting in Guatemala, held to prepare the text to be reviewed by the Central American presidents in Esquipulas 24-25 May. This is what Foreign Minister Gutierrez had to say on the matter:

[Begin recording] [Gutierrez] Well, the meeting went rather harmoniously. The text was reviewed. The discussions were somewhat lengthy. However, in the end, a good agreement was reached regarding the Esquipulas declaration. There were really no special problems or tensions among the delegations.

[Unidentified reporter] In what respect were the discussions lengthy?

[Gutierrez] Well, this was because an alternate text was introduced. Apparently the text had been drafted in Guatemala. However, during the discussions all the delegations agreed that the text drafted at the meeting of deputy ministers, held in El Salvador, was better. So the delegates decided to continue with that text. Some changes were made, but a very good agreement was reached. Apparently, the meeting had a harmonious ending. The final [word indistinct] was not modified.

[Reporter] (?Will there be any sort of agreement signed in Nicaragua) in the wake of the Esquipulas meeting?

[Second unidentified reporter, interrupting] [Words indistinct] point of discussion?

[Gutierrez] It would seem that at this meeting of vice presidents there were no conflicting proposals, so to speak. There were discussions on the details of (?some) aspects. However, there were no special problems. [end recording]

Moreover, the foreign minister said that Venezuelan Foreign Minister Fernando Ordonez [name as heard] will be arriving on a LACSA flight. He added that the Costa Rican Government is [word indistinct] little happy because the Sandinist government did not send a delegation to the inauguration. Instead, the Nicaraguan Government appointed its ambassador in our country, Claudia Chamorro. This will avoid a demonstration against the Nicaraguan delegation on the day of the inauguration.

GUATEMALA

ISRAEL'S SHAMIR ARRIVES FOR 3-DAY VISIT

PA061951 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 6 May 86

[Excerpts] Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir arrived in Guatemala today as part of a Central American tour that will end in Costa Rica, where he will attend the presidential inauguration of Oscar Arias. Amid strict security measures, the Israeli foreign minister arrived at the Magen David Synagogue in Guatemala City's Zone 2. He was accompanied by Israeli Ambassador to Guatemala Moshe Dayan. The main Guatemalan official who attended the ceremony was Vice President Roberto Carpio. The event was scheduled to begin at 1930, but Carpio arrived 45 minutes late. Guatemala City Mayor Alvaro Arzu, Supreme Electoral Tribunal President Arturo Herbruger, and ministers also attended the ceremony. Shamir arrived from Honduras and will stay in Guatemala for 3 days. Tomorrow he will meet with Guatemalan Foreign Minister Mario Quinonez Amezquita and President Vinicio Cerezo. He will also visit the Guatemalan Congress on Tuesday.

ARMY REPORTS ON CLASHES WITH ORPA REBELS

PA060307 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] The Guatemalan Army reported several minutes ago on the results of various clashes with rebel groups of the ORPA [Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms] from 27 April to the present in various parts of the country. The official report indicates that rebel Commander Pancho was killed in a clash on Ona Farm, 3 km east of El Quetzal, in northern Coatepeque, Quetzaltenango Department on the road that leads to the San Marco Reformatory. After the clash in which guerrilla Commander Pancho was killed there was a second clash with the same group near Las Marias Farm, where another commander known as Commander Miguel was killed.

In the morning on 2 May a rebel group attacked a pickup truck on the property of Pinita Enterprises near Jobompiche, east of San Jose on the banks of Salpeten Lake in El Peten Department. A military patrol of the Poptun area arrived at the site, beginning an operation to track down the rebels. Two days later, on 4 May, the military patrol overcame the guerrilla unit, and a clash ensued near Hogar del Nino Farm, in San Andres del Peten municipality, where three rebels were killed, including two chiefs, identified as such through the badges on their fatigues.

Also on 2 May another clash took place between a military patrol coordinated with a patrol of the Civil Self-Defense Committees and a rebel group in Santa Ana Belen, near Coatepeque. There were no casualties during this clash, but the military patrols continue in pursuit of the guerrilla unit. The military patrols seized weapons from the rebels in the course of the clashes reported. These include German-made G-3 rifles, ammunition, fragmentation grenades, Claymore mines, plastics to manufacture explosives, an RPG-2, and a portable radio. All this belonged to the ORPA, which staged the guerrilla operations reported in this bulletin.

HONDURAS

ISRAEL'S SHAMIR MEETS AZCONA, JOURNALISTS

PA061501 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1130 GMT 6 May 86

[Report by Douglas Membreno]

[Text] Amid strict measures imposed on the presidential guard by the members of Israeli Government security, Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir met with Honduran President Jose Azcona yesterday. The meeting was held behind closed doors at the government house. At the end of the meeting, Shamir held a news conference to which a few national and international journalists were given access.

Shamir said that his government hopes that the Central American conflict will be resolved peacefully and that he has learned about the positions of the countries of the isthmus. Shamir took advantage of his visit to Honduras to invite President Azcona to visit Israel. The Honduran president will probably make the trip in the beginning of 1987. Regarding the possibilities of cooperating with Honduras, the Israeli deputy prime minister said that preparations are being made to begin an exchange of technological and agricultural experiences. However, he denied that Honduras and Israel are interested in signing military assistance agreements. He said that such support for the Azcona government would be provided only if Honduras requested it.

Asked if his visit was to learn about the military needs of the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary groups, Shamir said that Israel does not intervene in the domestic problems of other countries. He insisted that at this time there is no willingness to channel military aid to the anti-Sandinists or any other armed group that does not support the Nicaraguan Government. He added that Israel supports such actions as the U.S. strike against Libya because it considers them measures against those who support terrorism.

During the news conference, Shamir said the following: [passage indistinct]

NICARAGUA

SECURITY CITED ON ORTEGA'S ABSENCE FROM INAUGURAL

PA061834 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] ANN reported this morning that the Nicaraguan president will not attend the inauguration of the Costa Rican president because the Costa Rican Government cannot guarantee the safety of the Nicaraguan mission. Nicaragua will not be able to participate in the inauguration of Oscar Arias Sanchez because the Costa Rican Government cannot guarantee the safety of a high-level Sandinist delegation.

Sources close to the Costa Rican Administration reported this, adding that Nicaraguan Ambassador Claudia Chamorro Barrios will attend the ceremonies as an extraordinary and plenipotentiary representative on a special mission. Nicaragua is the only Central American country that will not be represented at Arias Sanchez's inauguration, scheduled for next 8 May. Local press analysts pointed out that it would have been very important for the Central American region for the governments of San Jose and Managua to participate in an event with several Latin American presidents.

ORTEGA ISSUES DECREE ON IMPORT TAX PAYMENT

PA060320 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 5 May 86 p 4

[Decree No 183 issued and signed by President Daniel Ortega Saavedra in Managua on 23 April — passages in upper case as published]

[Text] Exercising his authority, the president of the Republic of Nicaragua hereby decrees:

Article 1. For the purposes of paying tariff taxes or other charges on imports paid for with the importer's own money, the exchange rate prevailing in the free market operating at the exchange offices authorized by the Central Bank of Nicaragua regarding cordobas to U.S. dollars or their equivalent amount in foreign currencies will be used. For the fulfillment of this, the Central Bank of Nicaragua will report from time to time to the Finance Ministry General Customs Directorate the selling price of the currency in the free market, as authorized by the Central Bank.

Article 2. For the purpose of the previous article, imports paid for with the importer's "OWN MONEY" are those paid for with currency not supplied by the Central Bank to the importer, such as those paid for by travelers, spare parts importers, and exporters and importers known as peddlers.

Article 3. The Finance Ministry is hereby authorized to exclude from this provision those goods regarded as essential and agricultural and industrial inputs when it is necessary to guarantee the supply of essential goods.

Article 4. For reasons related to foreign trade or market practices, problems related to the development of production, and the nature of exporters, the Finance Ministry is hereby authorized to use a specific percentage of the currency's sale price prevailing in the free market that operates in the exchange offices for the payment of these imports.

Article 5. This decree annuls provisions included in Decree No 1322 of 3 October 1983 published in LA GACETA, official publication No 227, of 5 October of the same year.

Article 6. This decree will be in force upon publication by any news media. It will later be published in LA GACETA, the official publication.

Managua, 23 April 1986. "25 YEARS LATER, ALL ARMS AGAINST AGGRESSION."

Daniel Ortega Saavedra, president

FURTHER ON RAMIREZ' REMARKS ON GUATEMALA MEETING

PA052254 Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] This afternoon the vice president of Central America, who met in Guatemala City yesterday, announced the agenda of the upcoming summit of presidents of the region to be held late this month. The topics on this agenda include: the Central American parliament; Contadora and mechanisms for political negotiation and regional security; economic and social integration; the study of a future Central American economic and social community; the foreign debt; and interregional trade. The vice presidents approved the agenda by consensus. These vice presidents said that they were satisfied with this weekend's meeting.

Upon his return to the country, Vice President Sergio Ramirez Mercado told reporters:

[Begin recording] [Ramirez] The objectives of the meeting were fulfilled. Our talks were held in a friendly climate. We reached common resolutions and approved the documents. We can say that the Esquipulas presidential summit is ready, and we do not think there can be any circumstances that can delay it or obstruct it. For Nicaragua, this represents a true victory in the peaceful effort to solve the Central American problems. The presidents of the region will have a chance to meet, talk and to try to find common solutions for the problems of Central America in order to consolidate peace in the region. All the vice presidents of Central America attended, and in the case of Costa Rica, both the outgoing and the new vice presidents were there. The new vice president will be sworn in next week. Therefore, all the objectives of the meeting were attained.

[Unidentified reporter] Dr Ramirez, among the topics to be discussed which do you think is the most relevant, important, or the most controversial?

[Ramirez] Well, there are the political problems related to peace and there are the economic problems. These are the two great portions of the final document to be approved by the presidents. It also foresees the establishment of a permanent consultation mechanism, which would be the Central American parliament, and an executive commission made up of the vice presidents of Central America which will prepare for the creation of the parliament and will keep the governments of Central America informed about political and economic matters.

[Reporter] This issue of the Central American parliament has been thoroughly discussed and there are some who have even criticized it, saying that it is outside the Latin American context. How do you view this?

[Ramirez] We think that if we can create a Central American parliament as a mechanism of constant consultations for the region, we will be taking a great step not only for the integration of Central America, but in the search for solutions for the common problems that we have. In addition, we will be showing that the Central American countries are capable of finding our own solutions regardless of the fact that ideological or political differences separate us. [end recording]

Editorial on Esquipulas

PA070238 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 6 May 86 p 3

[Editorial: "Esquipulas and Its Perspectives"]

[Text] On 24 May, by invitation of Guatemalan President Vinicio Cerezo, the first Central American presidents' summit in many years will be held in Esquipulas in northeast Guatemala. The Guatemalan initiative has had a positive response among the people in the region, as well as among politicians from other regions who view with much concern how the clouds of conflict caused by foreign political decisions threaten Central America.

Within the framework of the current situation, the Esquipulas meeting is by itself important, because the Central American presidents will discuss the regional situation and, of course, focus on the political and economic situation of the five countries and their bilateral and multilateral relations. Nevertheless, it is necessary to note that regardless of how many pacifist intentions the presidents may have, Esquipulas can neither be, nor is it intended to be the measure that will seal the peace in Central America, because the threat to that peace does not come from our own countries; it is rather the tragic fruit of U.S. stubbornness of meddling in problems that concern only Central Americans.

What Esquipulas can and should do is show Reagan the position of our countries on the conflict created in Washington and Langley. It should urge the United States to return to the dialogue with Nicaragua, because this is the only way peace will return to our region. So long as Reagan continues to be obsessed with the madness that Nicaragua is a threat to U.S. security, so long as he continues exerting pressure on the U.S. Congress to approve the $100 million for his mercenaries, so long as he threatens us almost every day with the same state terrorism he used against the Libyan people, there can be no peace.

Therefore, Esquipulas is a positive and encouraging initiative. However, the only acceptable peace -- a peace with no conditions that harm the respective Central American sovereignties -- can be achieved only in the measure in which Reagan ceases his intervention in the region, and stops stirring up the flame of criminal and artificial wars, all this in his useless effort to eliminate the Sandinist people's revolution.

AMBASSADOR CALLS HABIB STATEMENTS 'RHETORICAL'

PA060419 Managua International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Nicaraguan Ambassador to Caracas Aldo Diaz Lacayo has described Philip Habib's statements in Venezuela as vague and rhetorical. Habib, the U.S. roving ambassador for Central America, told Venezuelan President Jamie Lusinchi that the U.S. Government will make its policy towards this Central American country more flexible. Diaz Lacayo said that Habib's statement starts by linking any modification of Reagan's policy towards Nicaragua to a so-called dialogue between the revolutionary government and a military force that is trained, armed, and directed by a country with which Nicaragua maintains diplomatic relations.

PA031728 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 2 May 86 p 3

ARCE LABOR DAY SPEECH REAFFIRMS LAND REFORM

[Excerpts] The FSLN National Directorate and the national government yesterday pledged to double land deliveries to the peasants this year and to firmly respond to the workers' demand of the people's Sandinist revolution. Before a rally of over 60,000 workers of Region 4 at Claudia Chamorro Square in Granada, Commander of the Revolution Bayardo Arce made a detailed analysis of the framework in which Nicaraguans were celebrating the 10th anniversary of International Labor Day and reasserted Nicaragua's determination to stand firmly against the maneuvers promoted by the United States and followed to the letter by local rightist sectors.

"The objective of the struggle which presents itself before us in various ways and forms is to allow the Nicaraguan workers, who are now in power, to carry out the necessary economic and social transformations in order to demonstrate that we do not need bosses or managers to direct us; that we are the class of the future and masters of our destiny; and that we are capable of forging a better future for ourselves," said the member of the FSLN National Directorate. He said that, in addition to the criminal and unjust war which the biggest military power is imposing, imperialism's allies, or lackeys, and the displaced managerial sectors are taking advantage in the rural areas of the freedoms granted by the revolution to the people to make us feel that we are incapable of ruling Nicaragua.

"These sectors are acting more and more brazenly every day. This week, by force of the people's will, we had to crush an attempt by the traitorous conservative sectors to freeze the process of agrarian reform in order to deny to the peasants the land that the revolution has been turning over to them. The others -- the barefaced members of the PLI [Independent Liberal Party], tried to get us to elminate the TPA [Anti-Somozist People's Tribunal] through which the people are legitimately settling accounts with their old scourges for crimes committed during over 50 years of dictatorship and 5 years of criminal mercenary war," he asserted.

Arce said that this is the manner in which the servants of the Reagan administration take off their masks. In response to the PLI's attempts, Bayardo asserted that as long as the aggression continues the people will go on prosecuting and convicting their scourges through the TPA's. Arce added: "We have categorically said and reasserted it here before our people, during the Contadora negotiating process -- and nobody is going to make us retreat on this -- that we will never sign a document or agreement unless the U.S. aggression stops or the U.S. Government pledges before the international community, in a solemn manner, to respect international laws and give up its attempt to force upon us its blasted conception of what free nations must be like.

"It will not be enough for Reagan to go around promising that he will suspend aid to the contras for us to accept a peace agreement, because before we do so he will have had to relinquish all direct or indirect, overt or covert aid; he must have withdrawn the last mercenary from our territory; he must have lifted the economic embargo; and must have pledged before all international bodies that he will give up all attempts at political, economic, or military aggression against the Nicaragua people," he noted.

As evidence of the most recent provocations, Bayardo said that over the last 15 days the mercenaries have destroyed a coffee mill, burned two coffee production units, and made a criminal attack on the Asturias settlement.

In addition, and taking advantage of the poverty of the Honduran people, they have launched attacks through soldiers of that country. "In a new bid to corner the member-countries of the Contadora Group and the Support Group as well as to frighten the Central American nations, they have carried out provocations, and Philip Habib has gone around making threats and attempting blackmail. This is the only place he does not visit because he knows that there is a worthy people here who know how to resist until they overcome or die, but will never be slaves," Arce warned.

As a response to the escalation of the imperialist aggression, the member of the FSLN National Directorate mentioned the creation of more reserve BLI [battalions for unconventional warfare], and cazadores battalions. "The response from the people is so strong that we no longer have enough weapons and are asking sister nations to give us more rifles to make imperialism pay very dearly for its aggressive adventure against the world's free peoples."

OPPOSITION LEADERS RETURN FROM CONTADORA TOUR

PA021949 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] The opposition leaders who visited the Contadora countries to explain their points of view regarding the Central American conflict have returned. They met with the presidents and foreign ministers of several countries on the continent. Eric Ramirez, president of the Social Christian Party, reports the results of the trip.

[Begin recording] [Ramirez] We visited Panama, Colombia, and Venezuela. We stated our views on the Nicaraguan crisis, which basically are aimed at expressing peaceful, nonviolent alternative solutions to the Nicaraguan crisis. Our delegation met with the Panamanian president, vice president, and foreign minister; the Colombian president and foreign minister; and the Venezuelan foreign minister, because President Lusinchi could not meet with us due to unexpected problems. In addition to meeting with government officials, we met with leaders from all of the political sectors in those countries, as well as with the media.

I can say that these meetings have been very positive for the Nicaraguan democratic political opposition. The presidents we met with have fully and decisively supported the proposals we made to resolve our problems. In view of the approaching date scheduled for the signing of the Contadora document, an effort will be made to reach a global agreement with the Central American countries for the signing of the Contadora document. Therefore, under these circumstances these meetings with the highest authorities of these countries gives us important support, because we feel that we have fulfilled our goal. Within a few weeks we are scheduled to visit Mexico and the presidents of the Central American countries, prior to the meeting they will hold in Esquipulas, Guatemala at the end of May.

[Unidentified reporter] Mr Ramirez, how will the Social Christian Party reinitiate its executive activities?

[Ramirez] It has been encouraging to find that in all the countries we visited we were informed that the Social Christian Party holds a respected position on an international level, because it is a political organization that not only expresses a concrete alternative to resolve our fatherland's problems, but has carried out important actvities on a national level. We were informed of this by the leaders of the Christian Democratic Parties we met with during this tour, because in addition to meeting with the leaders we mentioned earlier, we also met with the Christian Democratic leaders in Panama and Colombia, and the Social Christian Party, COPEI, in Venezuela.

In these three countries there is permanent information regarding the party's activities and what is happening in Nicaragua. We have their broad and decisive support for the effort we are making in Nicaragua. Therefore, we are going to reinitiate an intense political effort on a national level. One of the goals we have established and worked for during the past few months is to strengthen the Social Christian Party's political structure throughout the entire country. Within the next few days we will initiate visits to the various departments. [end recording]

BRIEFS

GDR DONATION -- A mobile optical center donated by the GDR valued at $1 million that will offer its services from installations at the Karl Marx Hospital was inaugurated at a ceremony attended by the GDR ambassador to Nicaragua and the Nicaraguan health minister. [Summary] [Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 6 May 86 PA]

USSR RICE DONATION -- A shipment of 9,000 tons of rice donated by the USSR has arrived. It was the first shipment of a total of 25,000 tons that will arrive this year. During the period 1981-86, the USSR has donated 57,000 tons of rice to Nicaragua. [Summary] [Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 6 May 86 PA]

BULGARIAN DONATION -- The stevedores at the Port of Corinto have received uniforms donated by the people and Government of Bulgaria. In receiving the donation, a member of the Sandinist Workers' Central expressed his gratitude on behalf of the stevedores at the Port of Corinto and said that the uniforms would be delivered to the union for their orderly distribution. [Summary] [Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 6 May 86 PA]

SUGAR PRODUCTION -- Current national sugar production has reached nearly 4.5 million quintals. More than 1 million quintals will be exported to obtain foreign currency for the country's social development. The current sugar production was initially estimated at 5 million quintals, but it was reduced to 4.8 million quintals because of the country's difficulties in obtaining spare parts and new machinery due to the blockade. [Summary] [Managua Sistema Sandinista Television Network in Spanish 0200 GMT 5 May 86 PA]

NICARAGUAN LEADERS REPORTEDLY VISIT HAVANA

PA070009 Paris AFP in Spanish 2200 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Havana, 6 May (AFP) -- Today AFP learned from reliable sources that Nicaraguan Vice President Sergio Ramirez and Interior Minister Tomas Borge made an unpublicized visit to Cuba last week.

The presence in Havana of these two important Sandinist figures coincided -- at least partially -- with that of Peruvian Prime Minister Luis Alva Castro, official guest of the Cuban Government for the 1 May celebrations.

Observers in Havana speculated on the coincidence, underlining the interest shown by Peruvian President Alan Garcia in having the Contadora Group efforts conclude successfully with the signing of an agreement in June.

The Cuban press, which gave wide coverage to the public activities of the Peruvian prime minister, made no mention of the presence of the Nicaraguan leaders. It proved impossible to officially confirm or deny the visit by Ramirez and Borge to Havana.

SDAR FOREIGN MINISTER MAKES OFFICIAL VISIT

FL021659 Havana Radio Periodico del Aire in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] The official conversations between the Ministries of Foreign Relations of Cuba and Western Sahara began today in this capital at the Ministry of Foreign Relations. Isidoro Malmierca and Mansour Omar, of Cuba and the brother Arab nation, head the delegations of their respective countries.

During the conversations, which will evaluate the development of bilateral relations and their strengthening, there will be an exchange of opinions on the international situation, which is enduring imperialist aggressiveness as in the recent military aggression against Libya, an act which violated international law, and other matters of mutual interest.

Meets With Malmierca

FL061426 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Politburo member and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, has met in Havana with Mansour Omar, Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR] foreign minister.

Diplomat Honored

FL022258 Havana Radio Periodico del Aire in Spanish 2130 GMT 2 May 86

[Text] Havana -- At noon Isidoro Malmierca, Central Committee member and foreign minister, hosted a cocktail party honoring Mansour Omar, foreign minister of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic [SDAR], who is paying an official and friendly visit in Cuba. The diplomatic corps accredited in the country greeted the Western Saharan diplomat at the event.

JORGE, PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES SIGN ELECTION PACT

PA061842 Paris AFP in Spanish 0334 GMT 6 May 86

[Text] Santo Domingo, 5 May (AFP) -- President Salvador Jorge Blanco and the main presidential candidates today signed a pact to reduce the strong tension prevailing in the electoral campaign and to acknowledge the results of general elections to be held on 16 May.

Jorge Blanco, who expressed his "joy" at having achieved the signing of the pact by the three main candidates during his visits to them this morning, announced the plan last night during a speech to the country that was carried over radio and television.

The pact was signed by the president himself, former President Joaquin Balaguer of the opposition Reformist Social Christian Party (PRSC-Conservative), and Senator Jacobo Majluta of the ruling Dominican Revolutionary Party (PRD-social democratic).

The other candidate, former President Juan Bosch of the Dominican Liberation Party (PLD-leftist), who was also visited by Jorge Blanco, refused to sign the document, claiming that so far his party has not been involved in any violent incidents within the campaign.

However, in a letter to Jorge Blanco, which Jorge Blanco read during his speech, Bosch expressed his "appreciation" for the presidential initiative and support for the spirit of the document that aims to bring the electoral process, the sixth consecutive one since the 1965 civil war, to a happy end.

In three points, the pact establishes the commitment of the signatories to implement the necessary measures to tone down the already virulent electoral campaign in which seven peoples have died. It also states the willingness of the presidential candidates to acknowledge the outcome of the elections "at the end of the vote counting by the Central Electoral Council (JCE) or until the vote counting reaches a significant percentage ensuring that the uncounted votes will have no bearing on the final result."

As a counterpart to that commitment, Jorge Blanco simultaneously revealed the text of a letter sent to the JCE president and members asking them to hand an authenticated list of voters to each participating party. In addition, the letter demanded that the JCE accelerate all preparations for the elections and hand to the parties the computerized program that will be used to count votes to allow the participating candidates to have "a more sincere disposition to accept the electoral results as good and valid."

UNIVERSITY CLASSES SUSPENDED UNTIL AFTER ELECTION

FL051344 Santo Domingo Radio Antillas Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 5 May 86

[Text] The Santo Domingo Autonomous University [UASD] rector has extended class suspension until after the 16 May elections. Dr Fernando Sanchez Martinez stated that classes would resume 19 May if pressure caused by the elections was over. The UASD authorities suspended classes after serious clashes took place between students and police at the beginning of last month. Sanchez Martinez said they cannot take the risk of holding classes during the current agitated electoral campaign.